Shoreline Stabilization

A Guide to Protecting the Banks of Our Reservoirs

In all instances in which an adjoining property owner wishes to install shoreline stabilization along the banks of Lake Bowen or Lake Blalock to combat cases of extreme erosion, the adjoining property owner must first contact Watershed Management Staff at their local lake office to set up an on-site consultation. Watershed Staff will meet with the property owner to assess the condition of the shoreline and work with the property owner to develop a suitable plan for a solution that best protects that section of the shoreline. Under certain circumstances, Spartanburg Water (SWS) does allow the installation of retaining walls.

Following the consultation, the property owner may come forward with an application for the method of shoreline stabilization discussed with Watershed Management staff.

Preventative and corrective maintenance is allowed on all qualifying seawalls. The adjoining property owner must apply for and receive the proper permits prior to initiating any work.

The only instance in which a property owner will be required to remove an existing seawall is if that wall is in such a state of disrepair, or is constructed of such a material that it proves a hazard to lake users and/or water quality.